

**Sir Thomas Browne once said,
“We do too narrowly define the power of God,
restraining it to our capacities.”**

SPIRIT in ACTION

A Divine Science Federation International Newsletter
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May 2005

We Welcome You!

THE VERY PRESENT HELP

Edna S. Bunt

It was a beautiful spring morning. I had decided this was the perfect day to pull weeds in my flower garden. In a short amount of time I realized that the task was more difficult than I had anticipated.

I remember thinking, “This is beyond me, with all the other things I have to do.” After a moment I thought, “I’m not going to let this worry me. I’ll just turn it over to God and let Him take care of it for me.”

As I look back—the remarkable thing was that I had dismissed the problem completely. I simply walked away from it and went on with my other work.

About an hour later I saw a young man walking jauntily down the sidewalk. He was wearing heavy boots, his cotton hat resting rakishly on his head. He seemed to exemplify the whole beautiful morning in his young, confident attitude. He stopped before me “Is there any work I can do for you?” he asked. “I need to earn some money.”

I looked at him in awe. “You are the answer to my prayer.”

He grinned widely. “That’s me,” he said. When I explained what I wanted him to do, he nodded his head in satisfaction. “I like working in the earth.” He promptly applied himself to the task and did a beautiful job. It was a most satisfactory morning for both of us.

Coincidence? I don’t think so! No one can furnish proof that God fills our needs, but if you believe in an intuition that is a spiritual experience—“a stirring in the soul of man”—then you know that we can put our simplest or most complex problems into His loving hands and await divine adjustment. In this case, I sincerely believe we were drawn together by our mutual need, each to give and receive.

Too many of us relate our capacities to what we can see, feel, and taste. The Truth is we live in a world of unlimited supply and as spiritual beings we have unlimited access to that supply. It is like a spiritual bank account with God, replenished with use. For those of us who believe, our faith goes beyond a blind trusting to a confident belief that tomorrow has already started today.

Excerpts from "Health, Our Birthright"
by Nona L. Brooks

Health is our normal state; it is our birthright. It is one of the gifts that the Father meant when He said, "All mine are thine." We inherit perfect bodily wholeness, from God, our only father. . . .

Jesus saw himself as the expression of the heavenly Father, "Of myself I do nothing, the Father in me he doeth the works." "The words that I speak are not mine but his that sent me." Jesus knew that he inherited his life from Infinite Life. . . . He knew the Infinite Power must be demonstrated in his life, and that whatever the Father is must be showing forth in him. Accordingly when one of his disciples said, "Show us the Father," he could say, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father"---a wonderful consciousness. One to which every living soul is destined! . . .

As sons (and daughters) of God we do not inherit disease. We inherit health. It is our birthright, and we realize perfect harmony. We shall do so when we accept the truth of an Infinite Presence and live accordingly. . . .

This destiny means thought; it means care; it means definite study; it means living day by day to the highest and best, but there is joy all along the way. . . .

Health has a very large application. Its root meaning is *wholeness*. Today we grasp the word, wholeness, with a new understanding, knowing that health means the perfect harmony of body, of environment, of mentality, which comes from something still greater---the consciousness of the true spiritual life. We should not have inharmonious conditions; and we shall not have them when we have learned to *Live the Life*.

In the face of any experience that I do not like, I know that one of two things has happened. Either I am misjudging and therefore resisting something that is all right, which I would welcome did I but understand; or I have not seen Truth clearly enough or lived truly enough to harmonize my environment. In either case what must I do? I must come up higher. I must get a different point of view. . . . No matter what it is that makes the appearance of inharmony---I must realize the Presence and Power. No one can ever do that so long as he (or she) is looking at the inharmony, discussing it, and wondering about it. *It is a waste of time to turn to the condition itself and try to analyze it.*

Affirm: "This condition must be the outcome of ignorance and therefore I will seek enlightenment. I can lay hold of the Presence and Power here, now, everywhere, and at all times, for no matter whether I see it or not, this moment Its Activity is playing through the atmosphere of this room---yea, but better still, playing through the living being of each one of us---this Great Universal Power. It is the Father in us that will do the works through us when we get 'self' out of the way."

Health means wholeness---harmony in every phase of life. It means richness and beauty; it means joy and satisfaction; it means fullness of individual life. It is the Father's good pleasure to give us the kingdom and the kingdom of God is perfect power, perfect life, perfect freedom and perfect joy. All of goodness---far more than you and I have ever dreamed---is included in this kingdom of God. The perfect health of God can be consciously realized by us.

Health is included in spiritual consciousness. I am not speaking purely of an outward bodily harmony, that belongs to us; it is ours. I am speaking of harmony of the whole, harmony of circumstance, harmony of relationships, harmony of mental activities; all of that belongs in this great word of wholeness. You and I, as children of the Living One, inherit this completeness, this fullness.

The beloved disciple said, "Of His fullness have all we received and grace for grace," and the fullness which dwelt within Jesus, Paul tells us belongs to every one of us. "Ye are complete in him." Every soul can say "I am complete in this Infinite Life." This is health. This is wholeness. Whatever one feels to be his need, that need is supplied by this Infinite Wholeness. "*Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.*"

Health has this large meaning and healing is our coming into consciousness of health; hence one who speaks the word of health for another is trying to bring that other into the consciousness of this perfect Life, everywhere.

Someone has asked what kind of disease I thought could not be healed through spiritual treatment? Did I think that there was anything that could not be helped? My answer would be, "I have seen every kind of disease healed. I have seen what are called the last stages of the most malignant diseases entirely healed. *Do not think that there is anything incurable.* The power of God, the wisdom, the intelligence, and the love of this All-powerful One are great enough to heal any disease.

It is not the question of the kind of disease. It is the question of the person---how he will respond to Truth; whether or not he will make it the vital thing in his own experience---that is the secret of healing, and there is no other."

When something startling comes, a financial loss or some threatened danger to one's self or to a member of one's family, if one will maintain an attitude of quiet confidence, marvelous results will follow. For such an attitude is powerful. If instead of seeing disease or lack or danger, we quietly know that while from the human side there is this inharmony, this is not the thing to which we are going to give attention. The supreme thing to which we must give our thought is that *right there* Life 2

Is active, and Life is God in action. Infinite Love with its wisdom, its power, its goodness, is working there, and Infinite Life must plan for us something much greater than we can plan for ourselves. Infinite Love must know the need far better than you and I can know it. Then can we not quietly rest in IT? No matter how seemingly alarming the experience, may we not be calm in the assurance that the Infinite Power is working for us right there in that circumstance? . . .

We cannot have that attitude of perfect quiet so long as we indulge in fear, and it is *indulging*, because we can put fear from us if we will. Fear means doubt; it means darkness; it means everything that is undesirable. Nor can we attain to this wonderful attitude of quiet assuredness and conviction of the Presence and Power so long as we allow selfishness, so long as we allow hatred or dislike of any kind to possess our thoughts.

It is a wonderful thing to be relieved from the old mental habits that have bound us. "Be ye perfect even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." . . . The world needs today, as never before, strong souls that can stand in the midst of turmoil, strife, and darkness, and feel the Presence of God, for "They that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing."

We have worked externally for the good things of life, but we are finding that *all good is within*---the activity of the Infinite One, its richness, its fulness, its power. This is our heritage, our birthright. It is health, for health is the fullness and completeness of our nature realized in all of Life's activities and relationships.

(The following article was written in another time when we were again deep in conflict. The message is as true today as it was then. ---Editor)

I think one of the reasons that humanity is plagued with distress, whether we are talking about it collectively or individually, is because it has concerned itself too much with: the transitory; the immediate; the surface; and the shallow. Humanity has failed to take the time, and exercise the discipline, that contributes to more depth of life and more depth of thought. Mainly, we are a population whose primary concern is with immediacy---immediacy and expediency!

As an illustration: in times of war most of our population is concerned with getting our boys home, and I do not want to minimize the importance of this urgency. However, I also know that beyond this particular measure of our concern, unless we do something more deeply relative to the relationship of man to man; unless we do something more significant in the way of understanding the living presence of God as the Author of all Peace---something that will affect humanity in more profound ways---we may be only delaying the possibility of other conflicts.

The needs lie deeper; the needs are more extensive. The world will not reflect the glory of God until humanity is sufficiently emancipated from its own self-destruction and anger to learn that peace is more than the absence of war, that it is a dynamic, creative, active way of life that incorporates the best of ourselves and each other.

---Dr. Fletcher A. Harding,
A Divine Science Minister

--- YOUR RELIGION ---

Your religion is good---if it is vital and active; if it nourishes in you confidence, hope, love, and a sentiment of the infinite value of existence; if it is allied with what is best in you against what is worst, and holds forever before you the necessity of becoming a new person.

Your religion is good---if it increases your respect for the conscience of others; if it renders forgiveness easier, fortune less arrogant, duty more dear, the beyond less visionary. If it does these things, it is good, little matter its name; however rudimentary it may be when it fills this office it comes from the true Source. It binds you to man and to God.

---Charles Wagner 3

**God hath not promised
Skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.**

**But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
Light for the way.
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy
Undying love. . .**

--- Author Unknown

BAPTISM BY THE SPIRIT

Mary D. Rezendes - Minister at large

"Baptism by the Spirit" is the title of the Preface to Chapter VII in Malinda E. Cramer's book, *Divine Science and Healing*. She calls it a sample of true prayer that may be applied in healing, and blessing others in their effort to realize union with all Good. The language style, however, incorporates dated words that may prohibit some individuals from using this prayer. Therefore I would like to rephrase it to fit a more current language style. I believe it could be an excellent tool for both teaching and treatment. It aims at eliminating the belief in the separation and establishing our true identity.

"Infinite Spirit's instruction to the individual:"

It is The Self that manifests, there is no you, or other outside of Self-manifestation. I am life, power, and substance. Only I live. There can be no separate or other life. No one can ever wander, or fall away from The Self. There is only one life being; there is no other being that exists for I am everywhere and include all within the Self.

Goodness exists because I am Good. I am the life, living. I am the Love that loves. I am Truth being true. Expressing Self I am Infinite. Being no respecter of persons all is created impersonally whole and true.

Child of One being! Speak the word and claim wholeness. "Awaken from the dream of sense," and know the kingdom is ready NOW. Self's radiant Being is all there is to be. "Clothed with the Sun of Truth," have a single eye and be full of light. Believe in The One Self's manifestation in all ways, this is the clear path. Recognize absolute goodness and see only goodness in all, everywhere, this is the way to dominion over all form. The Self's will is one good being and doing; this is the realization of peace that passes understanding. The Self is whole and complete right now for I am all sufficiency, there is no other.

I pray that you will read this for thirty days with an open heart either in *Divine Science and Healing* or this rephrase, and allow it to transform your Self-perception. Then you can truly, "Let your blessings rest upon all."

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

SPRING CLEANING

Reverend Mary Emma Dryden
(New York City Divine Science Study Group
and affiliated with the
Quimby Memorial Church, Secaucus NJ)

As we all know, Divine Science was founded by two women, independently of each other, in two different states at more or less the same time in the late 19th c. Both had incurable, life shortening illnesses, and both were healed by Spirit; then became healers and teachers, and the average people around them also found their bodies, relationships, and finances healed, and became healers and teachers of this spiritual understanding, as well.

Since the 1980's I have been immersed in Divine Science studies, and this Newsletter submission is a good time for me to examine my basic beliefs.

The study of Divine Science is a continuing expansion of understanding of the word, Omnipresence. It can mean the universal allness of God and good; a spiritual universe in which each creation, including man, is spiritually perfect and complete, now. Wisdom, love, understanding, power, wholeness all flow naturally from the constant, perfect Source.

Based on this premise, house cleaning of my dusty attitudes and false thinking (duality) is a must. In the spiritual realm there are no comparisons. I must give up seeing sick/well; wealthy/homeless; successful/failure. Do you remember the aliens in the movie, "Cocoon"? They were forms of light who stepped into their earthly bodies and zipped them up as astronauts put on their space suits. Physical illness and distress could not reach them. This is a 20th c. illustration similar to Jesus' understanding that mankind is not his body. Jesus lived in the awareness that the One Presence and Power (Omnipresence) could see no evil and could perceive no illness. Jesus' words were aligned with Truth and came forth with power.

H. B. Jeffery says that he who would heal must be he who sees nothing to heal, and therefore makes no effort to heal. He says that Jesus did not do things. Things were done by the presence and power of that Light, that Wisdom, that Consciousness, in which He knew Himself to be immersed. He walked in the Truth, and Truth is its own power. It only works through those who are conscious of it; know its Allness; and who walk in the realization/experience of it. Jeffery continues that Truth acts because of its own law, and we might not even be aware that anything was being done.

As the early Divine Scientists, we are engaged in the vital spiritual enterprise of making the Truth known. God is not material; God is spirit. Creation is spirit with nothing needing correcting or healing. Our premise of duality, of two powers, is the root of all our troubles. Conversely, when we see the

One, Omnipresence, we see ourselves and others as the activity of Light. In reality all is in divine order now. Our job is to know this with conviction. We are instruments of divine activity, each in his own unique place and perfectly equipped to fulfill the divine role. The ordinary fisherman, Simon, who became Peter, had his consciousness soaked in Truth. At one point, people brought forth the sick into the streets to be healed by Peter's shadow as he passed by. (Acts 5:15) Peter walked in Truth; let us do likewise.

May the Spirit of God express today through individual Divine Scientists everywhere. We mistakenly see Truth healing 2000 years ago and in the 19th c. with Quimby and later, with the Brooks' sisters and others, but all is now. Just as the early Divine Scientists were receptive to being Instruments for God's activity, may it be so for us today, now.

— **Living** —
Earl B. Lawrence

In all life as we know it, there is one thing that stands out in bold relief, like a mountain against the horizon; it is that *nothing has permanence unless based on Truth.*

Empires and systems, dazzling in their noonday splendor, have vanished into the night of forgotten things.

Streets that echoed the ring of gold and the bustle of commerce now sleep beneath the feet of later civilizations, conquered by time.

Yet, whatever of Truth they possessed still lives and the voices of the philosophers and seers of the ages are fresh and potent today.

Real living is simple and natural. It is in harmony with the Eternal Laws and if one will shake off self imposed limitations the path is easy.

It is for this simpler life of freedom that we yearn, and no success is complete and no joy fulfilled without it. At times one catches a vision and passes it on that others, through it, may be lifted and sustained. Were these studies to be read only by those who have explored much along these lines I would not write; for I long most to bring the vision to those, who realizing the emptiness of their endeavors, are searching for satisfaction.

With a brush, touched by Divine Power, Millet has given us the picture of two peasants, who have paused in the midst of their toil as the sound of the distant Angelus calls and they bow in silence to hear the voice of God.

Through the streets of Washington, at a time when the inharmony of war and hatred was about him, a gaunt figure, with a shawl about his shoulders, walked alone. In the silence of those hours Abraham Lincoln touched the Reality and saw peace and harmony and freedom.

Washington, kneeling in the snows of Valley Forge, Jesus in Gethsemane, all the great and good of the past and present know that the hours of silence, when desires and ambitions drop away, are the opportunities we give God to direct us.

It may be possible by force of will to bring to pass the thing desired, but the result will carry with it all the errors in judgment that make up the resolve.

Napoleon's will led him into exile and misery; the open mind of Jesus, listening to the voice of the Father, established for Him a Kingdom vaster than the dreams of the Emperor of France.

*"Peace" as I close my eyes tonight;
"Be still" as I greet the morning light.*

After the period of quiet communion with God, which we term the "Silence," comes the awakening or the putting into action.

You have watched the approach of a storm; the gathering of the forces of nature. There is a stillness, so intense that our physical senses seem oppressed. Suddenly the power of the concentrated forces breaks into outward expression and nature speaks to us in a language we can understand. So from the silence we go forth into whatever activity we have chosen, and we go with a will to accomplish. The mountains of yesterday have dissolved into mist and the mist rises before the warmth of our presence; the road ahead is clear.

Thy day is here and you have the power and the courage to meet it. You have understanding too, for if you have listened to God, putting self and selfish desires and ambitions aside, you have attained knowledge or wisdom. Wisely directed efforts are successful efforts and wisdom must of necessity come from contact with the creative wisdom of the universe. Were human experience--wisdom, there would be no inventions, no progress.

Thy day is here; make the best of it. What a wonderful thing it is to stay with the game; to rise after every fall; to gather strength for another advance.

Prayer

**This is the prayer I make each night:
That with the coming of the light,
Each man may know that "foe" is friend
Within the Mind of God, and end
All war.**

---Germaine Ames Hall

STUDIES IN DIVINE SCIENCE

Mrs. C. L. Baum

A Continuation

XIII. JOY.

The importance of a right beginning is so thoroughly accepted a fact that it has become proverbial. How easy it is to dominate the thought of a whole day by a little concentration on a good idea in the early morning, and how surely are the hours of sleep and rest affected by the last waking thought. The whole life, likewise, is influenced by early teachings and habits, and proficiency in any one line of work depends largely on the way in which it was begun. Consequently the value of making the right beginning cannot be overestimated. How essential it is, therefore, that anyone beginning the study of Divine Science shall get a clear conception of the elementary principles on which to build the structure of life.

The subject of this lesson is one that, perhaps, has been a little neglected or underestimated in its relation to life. A great deal has been said and written about peace, and probably more about love, until we have quite a clear idea of the value and power of these qualities. But joy has been the subject of many false concepts. Certainly in the old thought, joy is postponed to a time and place called heaven, and people regard suffering and misery as a necessary part of life on the earth plane. And sometimes people in the new thought forget that joy and happiness are inherent elements of true life and are to be known and experienced now. Is it not significant that the advent of Christ was announced with a proclamation of joy? "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Are we not justified, therefore, in emphasizing this note of joy in the beginning of our study of Truth? Surely joy and happiness should be a part of our experience now and always.

We can come very quickly into a realization of this great joy. Everyone who has studied the principles of Divine Science and knows the omnipresence of God, the unity of Life, the purity of all Substance and the reality of Health, realizes these tidings of great joy. Whoever has come into a full knowledge of truth may constantly abide in joy. All gloom should have passed away from such a soul.

If joy is not a reality in your life, you need a change of thought. "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Simply be renewed by the strong consciousness of the presence of God. That alone will give you joy through a realization of the unreality of many things which seem temporarily to affect your life, but which will pass away. The little tidings that worry and trouble you crowding out the spirit of joy, amount to nothing and have only such power as you give them in your thought. It is a common experience that after a season of worry and anxiety we see the futility of it all and realize that joy might better have dominated our thought to the exclusion of worry. Joy is real, eternal, and changeless, while the other beliefs are temporary and without reality.

Joy is the fulness of divine content. It sees its own creation as perfect, harmonious, divine. Joy is complete satisfaction here and now, so that we do not long continually for all

manner of external things to make us happy and joyous. It is a state of serene consciousness, not created by any act of the will, but entered into through unfoldment, through constant thought and study of truth. We find it when we absolutely know our unity with the Spirit, which is universal Joy. "I too partake of that great invisible spirit, which is perfect, divine, abiding Joy."

The joyous souls are not always those who have many things in the external. Some of them seem to have nothing in the external to make them happy, yet they rejoice in the joy of the Spirit. Joy should spring forth in the human heart and should be fostered as one cares for a beautiful plant, in order that it may remain to make life brighter. Cultivate the spirit of joy within you and it will change your very life. It is always ready to manifest itself, but it must be made welcome.

Many people are afraid to be joyous, and consequently never are. Fear shuts out joy as clouds obscure the sun. There is that foolish notion that too free indulgence in joy and happiness will be followed by some sort of disaster. Put away all fear; banish all belief in misery and unhappiness; know that joy is a true inherency of the Spirit of God and man.

In time of adversity prepare for prosperity. The blue is always back of the clouds and all we have to do is to dissipate the latter. In times of depression prepare for joy. Never hold on to depression or feel that such a belief is going to stay with you permanently. Any condition which is opposed to joy is but a belief in your own thought which is depressing you by crowding joy out of your consciousness; so realize the unreality of it and prepare for joy which is real and eternal.

"So brief the time to smile, why darken we the air
with frowns and tears, the while we nurse despair.
Stand in the sunshine sweet, and treasure every ray,
nor seek with stubborn feet the darksome way."

Joyousness is not frivolity nor foolishness, although it may be so regarded by those who make of life a struggle, a rebellion or a tragedy. It is something, which sweetens our life and our environment. Joy is the sunshine of the soul. If the soul is still in darkness, open it to the sunshine. We can keep out the light if we will, but we might as well let it in and be so filled with the consciousness of joy that we shall experience it continuously. All nature urges us to look through smiles and not through tears.

"Ever laughs the sunlight in our eyes,
at morning and at noon comes the cool, pure wind
to whisper on our cheek its cheery tune,
just to tell us earth is beautiful,
and at the quiet even every star looks down,
lest we forget that earth is crowned with heaven."

There is quite a marked difference between joy and what is called happiness. The root meaning of happiness is "that which happens." Happiness is not an abiding state of joy. We may be made happy by something which happens in our life, or may be unhappy if it does not happen. We may obtain happiness from the external; we do not attain it from the inner. Consequently it passes away as things change and grow old, and we find ourselves dependent for more happiness on 6

more occurrences in the external. If we are not happy or joyous without things to make us so, we have not entered into the consciousness of joy. Joy is that calm inner state of blessedness, which depends on no external thing. Things can give us happiness for a time but can never give us an abiding sense of joy. If this were not true, people who have the greatest possessions, the greatest number of things, would be the happiest people in the world. But they are not; the fact is that greatest joy is found in people who have little of the external. We have not entered into the blessedness of joy until we have found it within ourselves.

There is nothing to keep us out of this state except ourselves. Joy is of the soul and is rooted and grounded in God. It belongs to the wealth of one's own being; it is one of the blessed possessions of the soul. As we come into the consciousness of joy, we shall enter a beautiful life of service. We shall be light bearers to the world, which is as yet in the darkness of false beliefs. The light of joy from within us will illumine and transform everything upon which it falls. Thus we have the power within ourselves to be transforming agents in the world. If our light seems darkened at times by the clouds of false belief, it is our place to remove the clouds, for God never puts a veil between himself and his creation; it is we who get in the shadow of a false belief that we are holding in our own thought.

The gift of a bright and cheerful disposition is a good one. If we have a radiant thought atmosphere and can always see the bright side of life, we share our joy with others. Let us smile and give a cheery greeting to everyone we meet. We may not know how much joy we have in life until we begin to express it. Even if we have friends who come to us with dark and gloomy tales, let us listen and know the truth of joy for them, for we shall thus bring them into a better state of consciousness. Let us have a note of joy in our voices; we should not affect a complaining attitude in the hope or expectation of receiving pity from others. Self-pity or the pity of others is weakening and should not be indulged. Emerson says, "Sympathize with my strength, not with my weakness."

No one can attain a consciousness of joy for us, nor can we get it from another. We may help each other, but each one must come into it in his own unfoldment. Let us go along the road with a bright smile and a happy word, recognizing the fulness of joy for ourselves and for our brothers. We are all "comrades on the great highway of life," and if we rejoice in the happiness of others, we shall find our own joy and happiness increasing.

STATEMENTS FOR MEDITATION.

I am a radiant center of joy.
 Nothing dark can come to me.
 I transform everything I shine upon.
 I have a merry heart.
 A merry heart is better than medicine.
 I rejoice and am glad.
 I sing unto my world a new song.
 Joy is the grace I say to God.
 I go forth to manifest the joy I am.

TAKE JOY HOME.

Take joy home and make a place
 In thy heart for her,
 And give her time to grow
 And cherish her;
 Then will she come and oft
 Will sing to thee
 When thou art working
 In the furrows, aye,
 Or weeding in the sacred hour of dawn.
 It is a comely fashion to be glad---
 Joy is the grace we say to God.
 ---Jean Ingelow.

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THERE IS NO WAR IN MY WORLD

Evelyn Jane Smith

War was on the tongues of those about me.
 The din of war news groaned in my ears.
 My eyes burned from the flashing words of war.
 My heart trembled; and I prayed for release.
 Then the Master stood beside me,
 and through Him all things were made clear:
*"When ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified
 ... Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against
 kingdom; and great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and
 famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs
 shall there be from heaven."*

Jesus is speaking to me and to you as he has spoken to all generations, for there has been no age in history to which these words have not applied. Jesus lives in the eternal present and loves the souls of men here and now. He knows the Eternal Presence, and gives us, in one concise statement, the key to victory---the way of knowing Omnipresent God activity in which is triumphant peace.

"In your patience possess ye your souls."

What does this mean? Patience means the uncomplaining and calm endurance of wrong, and it also implies the quiet waiting for and persistence toward what is expected. This commands activity *now* in the immediacy of one's situation.

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MAY, 2005

A Divine Science Federation International Newsletter

L ove
I ntegrity
F reedom
E xcellence **WE WELCOME YOU!**

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Man's soul is his Self, his Christ, the truth of his individual Being. ... The possession of one's soul, then, implies the recognition and claiming of one's sonship, of one's Christhood. The only thing of which a man can be aware is the *world of his own consciousness*. ... His world is the image of his awareness. In Truth man is in the heart of God; so it is man's privilege to look on his world and know that it is good. ... This is a challenge to see through appearances, to see through to the truth beyond and above appearances. It offers the opportunity of "changing the mind;" and this is true repentance. It offers the opportunity of renewing the mind and thereby renewing the world, re-imaging, re-creating the world. This is a matter of living *in* the world but not being *of* it. The world is of man. We must come to live of the kingdom, and from it, draw out images. When we do this, the world of experience begins to take on a different aspect. We see it transformed, actually, transformed by the renewing of the mind. When man learns to "let the peace of God rule in his heart," the peace of God will rule in his world also, for "God is not the author of confusion but of peace." Peace is added as an evidence of one's acceptance of God.

Each must live in the world of his own consciousness. Each must work out his own salvation. Each must possess his soul for himself. How is this to be done?

- Step 1 – "Seek ye first the kingdom."...
- Step 2 – "Watch ye therefore, and pray always." *Pray expectantly.*
- Step 3 – "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." If you do not already know, then *have faith*: you will soon know.
- Step 4 – Your world is of your own choosing. "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Do you want to live in the consciousness of those about you who entertain a war consciousness? Or do you want to live in a consciousness which has overcome the world, a consciousness which rules your world, the Christ consciousness in which you may have dominion? *Choose!*
- Step 5 – "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." To stay one's mind on God demands rigorous self-discipline. If you must read and listen to news of war, bless the situation, see through it, forgive it, forget it. Declare: "I will have no part of thee." Surely, you must "render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's": pay taxes, obey the military orders. "Resist not." With the Christ attitude, these cannot disturb nor limit. ... Peace within our hearts; harmony and order in our affairs; when this gospel is given birth in the hearts and minds of all mankind, then, there will be no war.